



## Federal Electronics Challenge 2008 Accomplishments Summary

Updated: 3/10/2009

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### INTRODUCTION

The Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC) is a partnership program that encourages federal facilities and agencies to: purchase greener electronic products; reduce impacts of electronic products during use; and manage obsolete electronics in an environmentally safe way.

Federal agencies and facilities participate as "Partners" in the program. The FEC provides Agency and Facility Partners with resources and technical assistance for improving electronics management practices, and gives annual recognition to Facility Partners that have achieved specific goals.

Through the provision of resources and recognition, the FEC assists all the participating federal agencies and facilities in meeting the electronics stewardship goals of Executive Order 13423, *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy and Transportation Management*.

### FEC PARTNERS

The FEC has two complementary, non-overlapping partner levels: Agency and Facility.

As of December 31, 2008, the FEC had sixteen registered Agency Partners:

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Defense
- Department of Energy
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Interior
- Department of Justice
- Department of Labor
- Department of the Treasury
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Executive Office of the President
- General Services Administration
- United States Postal Service

By the end of 2008, the FEC also had 215 registered Facility Partners, representing 689,101 federal employees. These Facility Partners come from the sixteen agencies listed above, as well as the Department of State, the Social Security Administration, and the National Aeronautical and Space Administration.

### FEC PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### *Development and Revision of FEC Resources*

The FEC has over 60 resource documents and tools for federal agencies and facilities on the environmentally sound management of electronics. The following are a sampling of new FEC resource documents developed 2008:

- Guidance For Federal Agencies: How to Document Chemical Reductions Achieved via Acquisition of EPEAT Registered Products to Help Meet Your E.O. 13423 Toxic and Hazardous Chemicals and Materials Reduction Goals
- Answers to Frequent Questions: "Enabling" ENERGY STAR® Features and Power Management
- Answers to Frequent Questions: Federally-Owned Electronics at End-of-Life
- Media Sanitization Considerations at Electronics End-of-Life

#### *FEC Educational Events*

FEC Partners had the opportunity to participate in several educational and networking events in 2008, including the Federal Environmental Symposia in June 2008 and monthly FEC Partner Education Conference Calls.



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In 2008, the annual Federal Electronics Stewardship Conference was replaced by the Electronics Stewardship tracks at the Federal Environmental Symposia (FES). FES East, held June 2-4 in Bethesda, MD. FES West, held June 17-19 in Big Sky, MT.

The FEC held twelve Partner Education Conference Calls in 2008. Guest speakers presented the latest information on a variety of topics, including: the myths and realities of power management; connecting electronics stewardship work to other EPA partnership programs; and extending the life of electronic equipment.

### *FEC Technical Assistance*

The FEC Regional Champions network was available to FEC Partners to provide information and guidance on FEC best management practices and related issues.

## **FEC PARTNER ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### *FEC Awards*

Thirty-four FEC Partners received a 2008 FEC Award for their accomplishments in 2007. Two Facility Partners from two agencies received an FEC Gold Award, ten Facility Partners from five agencies received an FEC Silver Award, and eighteen Facility Partners from seven agencies received an FEC Bronze Award. The FEC also recognized six Agency Partners for their assistance with the transition to the new FEC partnership structure in 2007.

Award applicants were required to complete all mandatory activities listed on the FEC Gold, Silver, or Bronze Award Checklists, as applicable, as well as complete a set number of optional activities for each award level. Gold Award applicants were also required to mentor two other federal facilities.

### *FEC Partner Reporting*

The FEC Annual Reporting Form, due each January 31 for the previous fiscal year, allows FEC Partners and the FEC program to track progress towards the FEC national program goals. The table below captures the results reported by FEC Partners for fiscal year 2008.

### **FEC Reported Results for Fiscal Year 2008<sup>1</sup>**

2010 Goals for FEC Partners	FY2008 FEC Partner Reporting Results
<b>95%</b> of eligible electronic equipment purchased or leased annually by FEC Partners is EPEAT® registered	<b>88%</b> of computer desktops, laptops and monitors purchased or leased were EPEAT registered <b>2%</b> were EPEAT Bronze; <b>46%</b> were EPEAT Silver; <b>40%</b> were EPEAT Gold
Electronic equipment in operation at FEC Partner facilities have an average life span of at least <b>four years</b>	<b>63%</b> of computers have at least a 4-year life span, with a weighted average life span of <b>45 months</b>
<b>100%</b> of eligible computers and monitors in operation at FEC Partner facilities have ENERGY STAR® features enabled	<b>95%</b> of monitors and <b>38%</b> of computers had ENERGY STAR power management features enabled

<sup>1</sup>128 FEC Facility Partner Annual Reporting Forms were received for FY2008, up from 62 in FY2007. These 128 reporting partners represent 413,570 federal employees.



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<p><b>100%</b> percent of non-reusable electronic equipment disposed of annually by FEC Partner facilities is recycled using environmentally sound management, as defined by the Responsible Recycling (R2) Practices</p>	<p><b>50%</b> of electronics taken out of service were reused; <b>40%</b> were recycled; <b>8%</b> were sold; and <b>2%</b> were disposed of</p> <p><b>95%</b> of non-reusable computers were recycled in environmentally sound manner</p>
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FEC has also calculated the environmental benefits of the activities reported by FEC Partners for fiscal year 2008.

### FEC Reported Environmental Benefits for Fiscal Year 2008

Environmental Benefit	Achievement	Equivalent to
Energy savings	426,181 MWh	Electricity to power <b>35,619</b> U.S. households for one year
Primary material savings	108,778 metric tons	Weight of <b>843,241</b> refrigerators
Air emission savings, including Greenhouse gas emission savings	1,756,911 metric tons 31,160 metric tons	Removing <b>20,927</b> passenger cars from the road for one year
Water emission savings	3,678 metric tons	
Toxic material savings	10 metric tons	Weight of <b>5,114</b> bricks
Municipal solid waste savings	2,199 metric tons	Solid waste generated by <b>1,104</b> U.S. households in one year
Hazardous waste savings	741 metric tons	Weight of <b>370,589</b> bricks
Cost savings	<b>\$40.3 million</b>	

### CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions related to this resource or need other assistance with the Federal Electronics Challenge, please contact your Regional Champion: <http://www.epa.gov/fec/technical.html>.

Visit the FEC online: <http://www.epa.gov/fec/>

E-mail the FEC: [fec@epa.gov](mailto:fec@epa.gov)